

Gary Job Corps Center (TX1161630644)
Tentative Disposition
07/11/88

Rationale for Disposition

The Gary Job Corps Center is an 817 acre vocational training facility which is run by the Dept. of Labor and utilizes the structures previously used by the Gary Air Force Base. This air force base, which was operational during World War II, received its last use during the 1950's, and allegedly disposed of tetraethyl lead by onsite landfilling during its operation. In addition, the Air Force Base stored approximately 375 electrical transformers on-site. These transformers were inherited by the Gary Job Corps Center and were recently tested for the presence of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The transformers, which were found to contain PCB contaminated oil, were transferred from a fenced yard to a secured warehouse for later disposal. The soil which was contaminated from any leaking transformers has been removed. Another area of concern within the 817 acre site boundary is the inactive, City of San Marcos municipal landfill which was closed under TDH approval in 1984.

To date, the EPA has not conducted any sampling at this site; however, several shallow, private water wells have been identified within a short distance of the disposal areas. In addition, EPA also has received correspondence from several parties expressing concern that the groundwater in the vicinity of the site may have undergone degradation from: (1) the disposal of tetraethyl lead by the military; (2) possible PCB transformer mismanagement by the Gary Air Force Base; and (3) possible leaching of contaminants from the City of San Marcos landfill. To address these concerns, the EPA will sample the water wells within 1/2 mile of each of the storage/disposal areas to confirm whether groundwater quality in the area has been adversely affected by the disposal/storage practices of the City of San Marcos or the Gary Job Corps Center.

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